

MINUTES OF THE
MAG MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
January 5, 2000
MAG Office Building - Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Frank Fairbanks, Phoenix, Chairman
Ruben Duran, Avondale
Joe Blanton, Buckeye
*Jon Pearson, Carefree
*Usama Abujbarah, Cave Creek
Pat McDermott for Lloyd Harrell, Chandler
*Maggie Reese, El Mirage
Paul Nordin, Fountain Hills
*Carl Stephani, Gila Bend
Urban Giff, Gila River Indian Community
Kent Cooper, Gilbert
Martin Vanacour, Glendale
Stephen Cleveland, Goodyear
Luis Gonzales, Guadalupe
Horatio Skeete, Litchfield Park

Mike Hutchinson for Charles Luster, Mesa
Tom Martinsen, Paradise Valley
Meredith Flinn for Terry Ellis, Peoria
*Cynthia Seelhammer, Queen Creek
David Easchief, Salt River Pima-Maricopa
Indian Community
Roger Klingler for Dick Bowers, Scottsdale
Dick McComb, Surprise
Gary Brown, Tempe
Reyes Medrano for Ralph Velez, Tolleson
Fred Carpenter, Wickenburg
*Lloyce Robinson, Youngtown
Mary Peters, ADOT
Tom Buick for David Smith, Maricopa County
Ken Driggs, RPTA

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS PRESENT

Kevin Adam, Mesa
Eric Anderson, MAG
Sally Anderson, Maricopa Co Atty's Office
James M. Bourey, MAG
Mike Branham, Arizona Criminal Justice
Commission
Peggy Carpenter, Scottsdale
Dawn Coomer, MAG
Corey Cox, MAG
William 'Blue' Crowley, Citizen
Valerie Day, MAG
Chuck Eaton, ADOT
Brenda Geisen, MAG
Dean Giles, MAG
John Halikowski, Arizona House of
Representatives Staff

Dave Hopper, A/N West/City of El Mirage
Jim Huling, Tempe
John Hunter, Deloitte and Touche
Terry Johnson, MAG
Denise McClafferty, MAG
Scott Miller, RPTA
Chris Plumb, MCDOT
Art Rullo, MAG
Audrey Skidmore, MAG
Dennis Smith, MAG
Kelly Taft, MAG
Gordon Tyus, MAG
Paul Ward, MAG
Jerene Watson, Goodyear
Shannon Wilhelmsen, Tempe

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Frank Fairbanks, Phoenix, at 12:05 p.m.

Chairman Fairbanks introduced proxies Pat McDermott for Lloyd Harrell from Chandler, Tom Buick for David Smith from Maricopa County, Mike Hutchinson for Charles Luster from Mesa,

Meredith Flinn for Terry Ellis from Peoria, and Roger Klingler for Dick Bowers from Scottsdale, and Reyes Medrano for Ralph Velez from Tolleson.

2. Approval of November 17, 1999 Meeting Minutes

Tom Martinsen moved, Paul Nordin seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the November 17, 1999 Management Committee meeting.

Chairman Fairbanks announced that a Committee member had requested that consent agenda item #6, Formation of South Mountain Parkway Agency Stakeholders Group, be heard.

3. Call to the Audience

Chairman Fairbanks stated that we have a timer to assist the public with their presentations. He noted that public comments have a 3 minute time limit. When 2 minutes have elapsed, the yellow light will come on notifying the speaker that they have 1 minute to sum up. At the end of the 3 minute time period, the red light will come on. He stated that for members of the audience who wish to speak, cards are available from the staff who will bring it to the Chairman. Public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for non-agenda items.

Chairman Fairbanks noted that no public comment cards had been turned in.

4. Executive Director's Report

James M. Bourey stated that the Internet Taxation Forum was held on December 16, 1999. Speakers were State Representative Jeff Hatch-Miller, Councilmember Dennis Kavanaugh, Mesa, Terry Trost, and Bob Ward from Westcor.

Mr. Bourey stated that a letter was received December 20, 1999 from the Government Finance Officers Association awarding the Distinguished Budget Award to MAG. He noted that only a handful of Regional Councils in the nation have received this award.

Mr. Bourey stated that the Regional Council Retreat is scheduled from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on January 7, 2000 at the Glendale Civic Center. He indicated that the format and issues discussed would be similar to those at the Management Committee Retreat, but with additional time for discussion on the New Economy and Governance. Mr. Bourey stated that an article on new regional dynamics, "Crossing the Line," published in *Governing* magazine was at each place. He encouraged all to read the excellent material on regionalism contained in the article.

Mr. Bourey introduced two new MAG employees. Melissa Carrao joined MAG as Office Services Supervisor after working for Starwood Hotels as a Staff Coordinator to the Vice President of Human Resources. Mr. Bourey noted that Ms. Carrao received her Bachelor's degree from Northern Arizona University. He introduced Mary Thomson, MAG's Domestic Violence Coordinator. Ms. Thomson received her Master's in Social Work from Arizona State University and her Bachelor's from University of Arizona.

Chairman Fairbanks thanked Mr. Bourey for his report and asked if there were any questions or comments.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chairman Fairbanks stated that public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for consent items. After hearing public comment, any member of the Committee may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually. Chairman Fairbanks noted that agenda items #7, #8, #9, #10, and #11 were on the consent agenda. As he indicated previously, agenda item #6, Formation of South Mountain Parkway Agency Stakeholders Group, had been removed from the consent agenda and would be heard. Chairman Fairbanks noted that no public comment cards on consent items had been turned in.

Chairman Fairbanks asked if any members had questions, discussion or requested removal of any other item on the consent agenda.

Hearing none, Chairman Fairbanks asked for a motion to recommend approval of the consent agenda. Martin Vanacour moved, Tom Martinsen seconded, and it was unanimously carried to recommend approval of consent agenda items #7, #8, #9, #10, and #11.

7. FY 2001-2005 Short Range Transit Plan

The Management Committee, by consent, recommended approving the FY 2001-2005 Short Range Transit Plan for public review and comment. The Short Range Transit Plan (SRTP) is prepared and updated annually by the Regional Public Transportation Authority on behalf of the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG). In addition to providing recommendations for transit improvements over the next five years, the plan also includes a summary of the regional transit system's operating characteristics from Fiscal Year 1998-99. The Plan was developed using input from MAG member agencies and citizen participation efforts that are normally conducted throughout the year. The SRTP is intended to provide public sector decision-makers, federal government officials and citizens with a summary of local and regional planned transit system improvements. The document is not intended to bind any one municipality or collective municipalities to the contents with the Plan, but rather to provide a guide in which to develop and enhance transit services. The Transportation Review Committee recommended approval of the Plan.

8. Proposed Administrative Adjustment and Amendment to the FY 2000-2004 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The Management Committee, by consent, recommended approving the administrative adjustment and amendment to the FY 2000-2004 MAG Transportation Improvement Program. The FY 2000-2004 MAG Transportation Improvement Program was approved by the MAG Regional Council on June 9, 1999. As a result of additional funding opportunities within the FY 2000 Federal Transportation Appropriations Bill, the Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) has requested an administrative adjustment to 40 transit projects and an amendment adding eight new projects to the FY 2000-2004 MAG Transportation Improvement Program. Proposed administrative adjustments to the TIP include twelve project advancements, five project deferrals, and twenty-three project scope changes, all of which may be categorized as minor project revisions. The proposed eight new transit projects, which require a TIP amendment for programming in FY 2000, may be categorized as exempt. The new projects are funded by Section 5307, Section 5309, and Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) Surface Transportation Program (STP) flex funds. Consultation is required for the corresponding conformity assessment on the proposed administrative adjustment and amendment. The Transportation Review

Committee recommended amending the TIP to include the proposed transit projects for STP funding.

9. Transportation Enhancement Review Committee Recommendations

The Regional Council unanimously approved forwarding a ranked list of proposed enhancement fund projects to the Arizona Department of Transportation Enhancement Review Committee (TERC) at its September, 1999 meeting. This year, eight enhancement fund applications were recommended by the TERC to the State Transportation Board for \$3.4 million. A total of \$11.8 million in state transportation enhancement funds was recommended by the TERC: \$7.5 million in local projects and \$4.3 in state projects. The MAG region received 39 percent of local funds, and 10 percent of state funds -- a total of 29 percent of all funds awarded.

10. Submission of Applications for the Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot Program

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century authorized the Transportation and Community and System Preservation Pilot Program (TCSP). The purpose of the TCSP is to provide funding for planning and implementation grants, as well as research to investigate and address the relationship between transportation and community system preservation. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has requested grant applications for FY 2001 funding by January 21, 2000. Applicants proposing construction activities will need their projects included in the MAG Transportation Improvement Program. Non-construction activities funded by TCSP should be supported or endorsed by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). According to FHWA guidelines, TCSP funded activities are to demonstrate coordination with the MPO to ensure consistency with the regional planning process.

11. Consultation on Conformity Assessment for Proposed Administrative Adjustment and Amendment to the FY 2000-2004 MAG Transportation Improvement Program

The Regional Public Transportation Authority has requested that the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) make an administrative adjustment to 40 transit projects and add eight new transit projects to the FY 2000-2004 MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The eight new transit projects require a TIP amendment. MAG has reviewed the proposed projects for compliance with the federal conformity rule (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93) and found that the project changes require consultation on the conformity assessment. The proposed 40 minor project revisions may be characterized as administrative adjustments for which a conformity determination is not required. The proposed eight new transit projects may be categorized as exempt, for which conformity determinations are not required. The current conformity finding of the TIP and the associated Long Range Transportation Plan Summary that was made jointly by the Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration in a letter dated June 10, 1999, would be unchanged by this action. The Transportation Review Committee recommended amending the TIP to include the proposed transit projects.

6. Formation of South Mountain Parkway Agency Stakeholders Group

This agenda item was moved from the consent agenda to items to be heard.

The South Mountain Parkway is part of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan and portions are funded in the ADOT Life Cycle Program. In June, MAG received notice of a planned

residential subdivision in the South Mountain Parkway alignment near Broadway Road and 59th Avenue. The City of Phoenix requested that action be taken on this red letter notification. The Transportation Review Committee (TRC) reviewed this red letter notification and recommended that a South Mountain Agency Stakeholders Group be formed to review the approved alignment and develop an implementation plan for the South Mountain alignment between 19th Avenue and the Papago Freeway, in order that an environmental assessment can be completed in time to start final design on central portions of this corridor no later than February 2002. It is anticipated that MAG will be convening the stakeholder group, including the Gila River Indian Community, ADOT, the City of Phoenix and Maricopa County.

Martin Vanacour requested that a West Valley representative serve as a member of the Stakeholders Group. He indicated that this representative would be of value to the Group. Mr. Bourey stated that designation of a West Valley representative to the Stakeholders Group would be appropriate. Chairman Fairbanks asked if there were any concerns. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to recommend approval.

Mr. Vanacour moved to recommend forming a South Mountain Agency Stakeholders Group to review the approved alignment and develop an implementation plan for the South Mountain Parkway alignment between 19th Avenue and the Papago Freeway, in order that an environmental assessment can be completed in time to start final design on central portions of this corridor no later than February 2002. Also, to include a representative from the West Valley on the South Mountain Agency Stakeholders Group. Stephen Cleveland seconded, and it was unanimously carried.

12. Valley Vision 2025 Update

Mr. Bourey stated that the Co-chairs and the Steering Committee met and had a major discussion on finalizing the report. Mr. Bourey said the final meeting of the full Committee is scheduled for early February 2000, when additional comments on the document will be discussed. The report will be modified to include any comments and then distributed. The report will be presented to the Regional Council for consideration of the recommendations and goals. Mr. Bourey stated that the report would be used as a vehicle to go forward with a public/private partnership. Mr. Bourey stated that Quentin Smith is developing ideas on structure. Mr. Bourey stated that a statistical survey is still needed to get a broad-based representation of the entire community. Chairman Fairbanks thanked Mr. Bourey for his report and asked if there were any questions.

13A. Tentative FY 2001-2005 Program for MAG Federal Funds

Mr. Bourey stated that MAG, ADOT, other MPOs and COGs have worked together closely on the enhanced process to develop funding estimates. He expressed thanks to Mary Peters and ADOT staff for their cooperative efforts. Ms. Peters expressed her thanks to Mr. Bourey and MAG staff for their work on improving the process. She commented that establishment of good working relationships is important. Chairman Fairbanks also expressed his thanks for the good work and commitment.

Eric Anderson gave a presentation on projects for the Superstition Freeway currently in the MAG Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), approved by the Regional Council in June, 1999. He said that HOV lanes from I-10 to Power Road, totalling \$192.5 million, are in the approved TIP. Mr. Anderson stated that the proposed I-10/US60 HOV ramp connection for 2005 totalling \$33 million in the approved LRTP is a very

important project. Additional approved LRTP projects are the general purpose lanes, Price to Power Road, FY 2008 to FY 2019, totalling \$22 million; and HOV lanes from Power Road to the SanTan Freeway, FY 2008 to FY 2019, totalling \$32 million. He stated that action is anticipated in February 2000 to package the US 60 HOV lanes, including the ramp construction for \$242.7 million, to Val Vista as a design build. Mr. Anderson stated that design build process cuts time. He said that Mesa is proposing that the SOV lanes from Price to Val Vista also be advanced as part of the design build project. Mesa will pay the interest costs associated with accelerating the SOV lanes.

Paul Ward gave a presentation on the development process of the TIP. Mr. Ward displayed a slide showing the additional STP and CMAQ funds expected to be available for each of fiscal years 2001-2005, totalling \$107.5 million. He noted that an additional \$3.5 million in CMAQ funds should become available each year. Mr. Ward showed a pie chart of projects submitted for federal funding, totalling \$296.2 million in federal funds. Mr. Ward stated that the street projects include the paving projects previously approved. He showed a pie chart of the projects recommended for federal funding totalling \$78.5 million.

Mr. Ward referred to the list of projects sent with the agenda packet. He said that 4 pedestrian and bike projects were deferred to 2003 from 2002 to achieve the early programming of recently approved paving projects. Mr. Ward noted that the bike and pedestrian projects could become eligible for acceleration if federal funds become available.

Mr. Ward stated that the requested motion is to recommend approval of the list of projects recommended by the Transportation Review Committee in the tentative MAG Federally funded program for public review and comment and to recommend that any additional obligation authority that becomes available will be allocated to transit. Mr. Ward said that the intent of different motions made at the November 23, 1999 and December 6, 1999 TRC meetings caused concern about the intent of the motion for the unobligated funds being allocated to transit. Gary Brown asked if there were an imminent need for action by the Management Committee today, or action could be delayed until the TRC clarified their intent. Mr. Ward replied that action by Management could be delayed on the allocation of the unobligated funds.

Mr. Cleveland stated that approving the TIP for public review and comment is the issue. He noted that if action is not taken today to approve the list of projects, the process could not proceed. Mr. Ward replied that action could be taken to recommend approval of the list of projects, and delay allocation of the unobligated funds to transit until the TRC clarifies their position. Ken Driggs stated that preference is usually given to transit in cases of unobligated funds because it is an expeditious process. Chairman Fairbanks noted that action would be taken on agenda items #13A, #13B, #13C, and #13D since they are closely interrelated.

13B. Tentative FY 2001-2005 MAG Regional Transit Federal Program

Bob Antila stated that each year, MAG and RPTA develop a fiscally constrained Transit Federal Program to operate transit services for inclusion in the TIP. Federal funds are generally used for capital expenditures, while local matching funds are used for transit operations. Mr. Antila reviewed the list of transit projects funded by 5307, 5309, Local, and STP funds that was included in the agenda packet. He noted that the list does not include CMAQ funds. Chairman Fairbanks thanked Mr. Antila for his presentation and asked if there were any questions. Mr. Driggs noted

that the RPTA Board would meet the following week and would discuss federal discretionary funding requests.

13C. ADOT Tentative Life Cycle Program for the MAG Freeway System

Eric Anderson gave a presentation on the ADOT Tentative Life Cycle Program. He stated that each year, ADOT develops the Program for the design and construction of the MAG Regional Freeway System, using available revenue resources. He said that the sequence of the projects is determined by the adopted priorities and the acceleration schedule to complete the Freeway Program in 2007. Mr. Anderson noted that this year's Program restores elements eliminated as part of the 1994 Governor's Plan, including lanes and lighting. Additional elements were added, such as median barriers, noise walls, and underground conduit for future installation of the Freeway Management System. Mr. Anderson indicated that the conduit is being added as a cost saving measure. He said that work on the cash flow is ongoing.

Chairman Fairbanks thanked Mr. Anderson for his presentation and asked if there were any questions. Ruben Duran asked for clarification of the completion of the Agua Fria Freeway. Ms. Peters replied that the roadway is under construction and completion is projected for the fall of 2000. Mr. Duran referred to page one of the preliminary draft that showed completion by December 2001. Mr. Anderson replied that the 2001 date refers to the landscaping. Ms. Peters stated that this roadway will be open to traffic in the fall.

Chairman Fairbanks commented on the need to study noise walls. He said that communities would support the program if extended. Ms. Peters stated that ADOT and MAG staff are continuing to monitor noise walls in residential developments. She said that environmental studies include noise mitigation where needed. Chairman Fairbanks stated that many communities do not have the funds for noise walls. Ms. Peters stated that it is ADOT's intent to expand noise walls if actual sound levels exceed the 67 decibel level.

13D. ADOT Tentative FY 2001-2005 Highway Construction Program

Terry Johnson reviewed the joint MAG/ADOT process to develop a five year highway construction program. After determining the resources available and priorities for projects, the draft Program is submitted for public review and comment. Mr. Johnson described the construction projects proposed for addition to the Program, totalling \$123 million. Mr. Johnson stated that the full program has not yet been finalized by ADOT, but is forthcoming. Chairman Fairbanks thanked Mr. Johnson for his presentation.

Chairman Fairbanks recognized public comment from Blue Crowley, who commented on agenda item #13A, Tentative FY 2001-2005 Program for MAG Federal Funds. He said that not all MAG jurisdictions are included in transit projects. For agenda item #13B, Tentative FY 2001-2005 MAG Regional Transit Federal Program, Mr. Crowley stated that bridges are not included at I-17 and Grand Avenue. For agenda item #13C, ADOT Tentative Life Cycle Program for the MAG Freeway System, he indicated that, since CTOC is a member agency, comments made at their meetings should be included in the public input section of MAG summary transmittals. For agenda item #13D, ADOT Tentative FY 2001-2005 Highway Construction Program, he said that because of legislation, the RPTA will not exist after 2005. Chairman Fairbanks thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

Mr. Brown asked if the HOV lane and the ramps to I-10 on the Superstition would be completed at the same time. Chuck Eaton replied that they are concurrent projects and would be constructed as one project. Hearing no further discussion, Chairman Fairbanks asked for a motion to recommend approval of agenda items #13A, #13B, #13C, and #13D.

Gary Brown moved to recommend approval of agenda items #13A, Tentative FY 2001-2005 Program for MAG Federal Funds, the list of projects recommended by the Transportation Review Committee in the tentative MAG Federally funded program for public review and comment with the request that the TRC clarify their intention on use of available funds for transit; #13B, Tentative FY 2001-2005 MAG Regional Transit Federal Program, the Tentative FY 2001-2005 MAG Regional Transit Federal Program for public review and comment; #13C, ADOT Tentative Life Cycle Program for the MAG Freeway System, the Tentative Freeway Life Cycle Program for the MAG Freeway System for public review and comment; and #13D, ADOT Tentative FY 2001-2005 Highway Construction Program, the ADOT Tentative FY 2001-2005 Five Year Highway Construction Program for public review and comment. Stephen Cleveland seconded. Chairman Fairbanks asked if there were any questions or discussion.

Hearing none, a vote was taken and it was unanimously carried to recommend approval of the list of projects recommended by the Transportation Review Committee in the tentative MAG Federally funded program, with the request that the TRC clarify their intention on use of available funds for transit, for public review and comment, the Tentative FY 2001-2005 MAG Regional Transit Federal Program for public review and comment, the Tentative Freeway Life Cycle Program for the MAG Freeway System for public review and comment, and the ADOT Tentative FY 2001-2005 Five Year Highway Construction Program for public review and comment.

14. Grand Avenue Major Investment Study

Dave French, from URS Greiner, stated that the 1998 MAG Grand Avenue Corridor Study examined 14 options for improvements and recommended 3 of those options be developed into a Major Investment Study (MIS). Mr. French said the MIS focused on 2 options: Option 4, alternating grade separations; and Option 5, limited expressway. The Grand Avenue Steering Committee recommended that Option 4, with modifications, be implemented on Grand Avenue to be further upgraded to expressway standards. Mr. French stated that \$160 million is currently programmed for improvements and the MIS estimates the cost of Option 4 at \$176.6 million. Mr. French summarized the intersection improvements to improve traffic flow. He said that at 4 intersections, 51st Avenue and Bethany Home Road, 55th Avenue and Maryland, 75th Avenue and Olive, and 67th Avenue and Northern, recommendations are to implement grade separations at the north/south or east/west arterials. He said grade separations on Grand Avenue at the intersections of 27th Avenue and Thomas, 43rd Avenue and Camelback and 59th Avenue and Glendale, were recommended.

Mr. French said that the action requested is to recommend including the Grand Avenue MIS in the Draft MAG Long Range Transportation Plan: 2000 Update for a conformity analysis, with the MIS concept for completion by 2006, and the Long Range Transportation Plan concept for the facility to be a controlled access facility. Chairman Fairbanks thanked Mr. French for his presentation and asked if there were any questions.

Hearing none, Chairman Fairbanks recognized public comment from Blue Crowley, who commented on the public involvement conducted in the MIS. Mr. Crowley said that bike,

pedestrian, and heavy rail are not being considered. He stated that bicycle usage will protect the air. Mr. Crowley stated that bike lanes are needed for safety of the riders. Mr. Crowley stated that bike lanes have been added to similar roadways, such as Cave Creek Road. He indicated that he would like Grand Avenue to be a jewel of the west side, not a scar. Chairman Fairbanks thanked Mr. Crowley for his comments.

Martin Vanacour stated that Mr. Crowley's comments need to be considered. Mr. Vanacour moved, Dick McComb seconded, and it was unanimously carried to recommend including the Grand Avenue Major Investment Study in the Draft MAG Long Range Transportation Plan: 2000 Update for a conformity analysis, with the MIS concept for completion by 2006, and the Long Range Transportation Plan concept for the facility to be a controlled access expressway.

Mr. Driggs expressed appreciation to Mr. French for all the hard work. He said that Mr. French had been the Manager of the MAG Transportation and Planning office.

15. Status Update on the June 30, 1998 Single Audit and Management Letter Comments, MAG's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) and OMB Circular A-133 Reports (i.e., "Single Audit") for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1999 and the Related Management Letter Comments

Art Rullo gave a presentation on the FY 1999 Audit Report. He stated that Deloitte and Touche LLP completed the audit of MAG's comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Single Audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999. Mr. Rullo stated that John Hunter, Deloitte and Touche, was present at the meeting to answer any questions. Mr. Rullo reviewed the results of the audit. He said that the report indicated there were no reportable conditions considered to be material weaknesses, no instances of non-compliance and no questioned costs. Mr. Rullo noted that the report provided one procedural finding to improve MAG's financial management, which was not considered material. He said that this finding, Written Procurement Policies and Procedures, is currently being addressed by Management. The anticipated resolution is expected by the end of January.

Mr. Rullo said that the Management Letter provided six recommendations for improvement. Each of these recommendations is currently being addressed. Mr. Rullo displayed a slide of the Financial Statement Overview on the cash and modified accrual basis. He summarized the status update of the Single Audit findings and the Management Letter comments from fiscal year 1998.

Chairman Fairbanks asked Mr. Hunter to come forward and confirm for the record that the presentation was consistent with the auditor's report. Mr. Hunter confirmed the information presented was consistent with the report. He mentioned that improvement on the audit has taken place in each of the three years he has worked with MAG.

Fred Carpenter moved, Ruben Duran seconded, and it was unanimously carried to recommend accepting the MAG Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Single Audit Report for the year ended June 30, 1999.

16. State of Arizona Crime Victim Compensation Fund

Chairman Fairbanks introduced Mike Branham, Executive Director of the Criminal Justice Commission. He mentioned Mr. Branham's intense involvement in MAG committees until he recently accepted the position with the Criminal Justice Commission. Mr. Branham stated that the State of Arizona Crime Victim Compensation Fund was formed in 1986 to offer some

compensation to victims of crime. He introduced Sally Anderson, Maricopa County Victim Compensation Bureau, who gave a presentation on the Fund.

Ms. Anderson stated that the victim is the responsible party for medical treatment, funeral costs, and counseling that are incurred as a result of crime. The Crime Victim Compensation Fund will cover wage loss and funeral, medical, dental, counseling expenses of a crime victim up to \$10,000. Ms. Anderson stated that in some situations, relatives of a victim or a witness to a crime may be eligible for counseling expenses. She listed assault, homicide, DUI, leaving the scene, molestation, endangerment, domestic violence, robbery, and sexual assault as examples of crimes covered by the Fund.

Ms. Anderson stated that a volunteer Board, appointed by County Attorney Rick Romley, makes the final decision on compensation. They may award 100 percent, award partially, or deny 100 percent. She said that the source of the Funds are from surcharges, approximately 4.6 percent, placed on fines assessed to offenders. These surcharges are distributed in the form of grants. Ms. Anderson summarized the eligibility criteria. She stated that support staff for the program could be reached at 602-506-4955.

Mr. Branham stated that he had been working with the RPTA to get Crime Victim Assistance Fund information on buses and bus stop benches. Mr. Bourey stated that not many people are aware of this valuable program. Mr. Brown asked how the demand compares to the supply of money. Ms. Anderson replied that they are staying abreast of awards of money. She indicated that negotiations with providers helps. Mr. Brown stated that the Fund would be a good topic to present on the City of Tempe's *Street Beat* program. He said he would make the tape available to all after taping. Mr. Branham said that he could be reached at 602-230-0252. Mr. Duran stated that press releases on the Fund could be given to neighborhood newspapers. Chairman Fairbanks thanked Ms. Anderson and Mr. Branham for their reports.

Mr. Cleveland noted that Charles Luster from Mesa, Dick Bowers from Scottsdale, and Dick McComb from Surprise, will soon leave their positions as City Managers. In addition, Carlos Palma from Avondale has recently retired. Mr. Cleveland stated that a formal recognition of their contributions to the region would be appropriate. He said that Debbie Kohn is assembling a scrapbook that will be presented to Mr. Palma. Those interested in including a message should contact her at the City of Avondale. Mr. Duran commented that Mr. Palma served as City Manager for 24 years, which may be a high water mark for City Managers. He noted that Mr. Palma left the City organizationally and financially sound. Mr. Nordin asked if resolutions of appreciation would be appropriate. Mr. Bourey replied that resolutions could be drafted. Mr. Brown announced that Jim Huling was leaving the City of Tempe on January 7, 2000. He acknowledged Mr. Huling's contributions to the City and the Region.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary